



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/718,069   | 11/20/2003  | Kuan-Heng Wu         | U 014903-2          | 8661             |
| 140  | 7590        | 06/27/2006           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| LADAS & PARRY<br>26 WEST 61ST STREET<br>NEW YORK, NY 10023 |             |                      | LEE, JINHEE J       |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 2831                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/718,069

Applicant(s)

WU, KUAN-HENG

Examiner

Jinhee J. Lee

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-18 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 10, 12-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Snyder (US006392635B1).

Re claim 10, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device of a computer accessory, comprising: a casing (40 for example) having a first opening (unnumbered); and a collecting portion (with 31 for example) inside said casing for containing a signal-transmission device (22 cord for example) extending from said computer accessory (mouse); a fastening device (26, pocket for example) positioned on a first interior surface of said casing, and said fastening device being positioned near said first opening to clasp said signal-transmission device; and an elastic element (50 coil spring for example) having a first terminal and a second terminal, said first terminal of said elastic element being installed into a second interior surface (at 46 for example) of said casing, and said second terminal of said elastic element being connected to said signal-

transmission device (via 48, 47 to 38 for holding 22) to force said signal-transmission device to draw back into said collecting portion (see figures 4 and 5).

Re claim 12, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device, wherein said signal-transmission device includes a cable (22) and a connector (24).

Re claim 13, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device, wherein said fastening device further comprises a second opening (54 for example) to enable said cable to pass therethrough, said second opening being wider than a diameter of said cable, and smaller than a width of said connector (see figures 4 and 5).

Re claim 14, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device, wherein said fastening device further comprises a recess (unnumbered along the pocket 26 for example) for fastening said connector (see figures 4 and 5).

Re claim 15, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device, wherein said computer accessory is an external computer accessory (mouse).

Re claim 16, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device wherein said fastening device has a second opening and a recess, said second opening enabling said cable to pass therethrough, and said recess being provided to fix said signal-transmission device, wherein said signal-transmission device is drawn out of said recess, and pulled upwardly out of said fastening device by passing through said second opening when said computer accessory is used by a user, and said signal-transmission device is moved back into the fastening device and said signal-transmission device is clamped into said second opening after adjusting an optimum length of said signal-transmission device (see figures 4 and 5).

Re claim 17, Snyder discloses a wire-collecting device, wherein said second opening is wider than a diameter of said cable, and smaller than a width of said connector (see figures 4 and 5).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 11 and 18, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder in view of Tree (US 20020147698A1).

Re claim 11, Snyder substantially discloses a wire-collecting device as set forth in claim 10 above. Snyder does not explicitly disclose wherein said casing further comprises a cover that opens out from said first opening. However, Tree teaches of wherein said casing further comprises a cover that opens out from said first opening (see figure 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cover of Tree on the wire-collecting device of Snyder in order to provide an attached cover.

Re claim 18, Snyder substantially discloses a wire-collecting device as set forth in claim 17 above. Snyder does not explicitly disclose wherein said cable is a helix cable and the width of said second opening is smaller than a diameter of said helix cable. However, Tree teaches of wherein said cable is a helix cable (see figure 2) with a diameter that would be larger than the width of the second opening of Snyder. It

Art Unit: 2831

would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the helix cable of Tree on the wire-collecting device of Snyder with the width of said second opening (53 of Snyder) that is smaller than a diameter of said helix cable (of Tree) in order to provide a longer cord.

Re claim 20, Snyder substantially discloses a wire-collecting device as set forth in claim 16 above. Snyder does not explicitly disclose wherein said casing further comprises a cover that opens out from said first opening. However, Tree teaches of wherein said casing further comprises a cover that opens out from said first opening (see figure 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cover of Tree on the wire-collecting device of Snyder in order to provide an attached cover.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 4/7/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "elastic element connects the second interior surface, and another end connects to the cable", "second interior surface is a fixed base to bring the support force to the elastic element") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Furthermore, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A. Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2831

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinhee J Lee  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2831

jjl

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jinhee J Lee', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.